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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hisashi Umeda  
Serial No.: 10/798,102  
Conf. No.: 5914  
Filed: 03/11/2004  
For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM,  
MAGNETIC STORAGE APPARATUS  
AND RECORDING METHOD  
Art Unit: 1773  
Examiner: Rickman, Holly C.

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

16 Nov 06

Date

Registration No. 29,367  
Attorney for Applicant(s)INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the C.F.R. §1.97(b) time period, but before the mail date of a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance (whichever occurs first), with either:

- (a) a statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e); or
- (b) the \$180.00 fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

( ) Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e):

( ) The enclosed references were cited in a Communication issued by Japanese Patent Office and mailed on September 5, 2006 (copy enclosed). Applicant(s) hereby certify that each item of information cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

(X) Applicant(s) hereby certify that no item of information cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing below after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

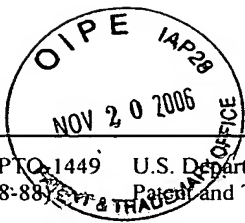
Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney Docket No.: 0941.70006	Serial No.: 10/798,102
	Applicant: Hisashi Umeda	
	Filing Date: 3-11-04	Group: 1773

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	6,899,959	May 31, 2005	Bertero et al.			
	6,881,496	Apr. 19, 2005	Okamoto			
	6,635,367	Oct. 21, 2003	Igarashi et al.			
	6,645,646	Nov. 11, 2003	Umeda et al.			
	6,773,833	Aug. 10, 2004	Inomata et al.			
	2003/0017369	Jan. 23, 2003	Hirayama et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	2003-263715	Sep. 19, 2003	Japan			Abs.	
	2003-263714	Sep. 19, 2003	Japan			Abs.	
	2003-016624	Jan. 17, 2003	Japan			Abs.	
	2002-279618	Sep. 27, 2002	Japan			Abs.	
	2001-056924	Feb. 27, 2001	Japan			Abs.	
	2002-109713	Apr. 12, 2002	Japan			Abs.	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


Examiner	Date Considered
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\*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.